

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH April 8, 2008

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee held a meeting on this date at 6:30 p.m. in the Exeter-West Greenwich Jr. – Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Frank Maher; and Mary Walsh. Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson; arrived at 6:43 p.m. Members William Munroe and Robert Bollengier were absent. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar; Director of Administration Robert V. Ross; Director of Curriculum Nancy I. Daley; Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar; and Attorney Brad Gorham were present. Student Member Katherine Matook was absent.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Chair DeSack read the District Mission Statement.

OPEN FORUM – None

PRESENTATION – Student Member Report – None

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA – Superintendent Geismar gave an overview of the Consent Agenda.

Member Maher moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Member Walsh. Voted 4 - 0 in favor.

The following items were approved:

**A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Minutes of March 25, 2008;
Executive Session Minutes of March 25, 2008**

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations – (ENCLOSED) – (As Recommended by the Superintendent, with Regret)

a. Letter of Resignation from Susan Wieboldt from her position as Grade 1 Teacher at Wawaloam School, effective June 2008

b. Letter of Resignation from Michael Newsome from his position as 1.0 FTE Behavior Specialist at Metcalf Elementary School, effective April 8, 2008

4. Grievances

5. Non-Renewals

6. Recalls

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$124,370.96

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D. Home School Approvals

End Consent Agenda

Superintendent Geismar gave an overview of the Correspondence. He referenced Correspondence (2) and said that this item will be placed on the next regular meeting agenda for discussion.

Correspondence – (1) April 1, 2008 Memorandum from Superintendent Geismar to School Committee Regarding NECAP Workshop; (2) April 8, 2008 Memorandum from the Superintendent to the School Committee regarding EWG Sports for Kids Track Update with two Attachments

Monthly Status Reports- Superintendent – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the Monthly Status Reports.

Business

Curriculum

Special Education

Maintenance

Technology

Monthly Subcommittee Report – Policy Subcommittee – None

Vice Chair Cicero arrived at this time, (6:43 p.m.).

Monthly Budget Projection 2007 – 2008 – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the Monthly Budget Projection

2007 – 2008 report or its new format.

NEW BUSINESS – Approve .2 FTE ELL for the Remainder of the School Year – Superintendent Geismar advised that the district is obligated by law to provide this new addition .2 FTE to service two new non-English speaking Metcalf School and Jr. High School students until the end of the school year.

Member Maher moved to approve a .2 FTE ELL for the remainder of the school year. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 5 – 0 in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Policies – Review and Adoption - #7505 – Home-Schooling – 2nd Reading – Members did not express and questions or concerns regarding this policy. This item will continue to the next regular meeting agenda for adoption.

#7502 – Curriculum Coordination and Articulation – 2nd Reading – Members did not express and questions or concerns regarding this policy. This item will continue to the next regular meeting agenda for adoption.

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Wawaloam Fire Alarm/Egress Issue – Director of Administration

Robert Ross reported that he will meet with Fire Marshal St. Jean and Luis Torrado of LA Torrado Architects on Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. They will conduct a walkthrough at Wawaloam School in order to compose a tentative design to present to the RI Safety Code Fire Board of Appeal and Review on April 29, 2008.

Bond Discussion – Superintendent Geismar recognized Attorney Brad Gorham who is in attendance this evening to explain the details surrounding amendments made to the language of the bond enabling legislation. Attorney Gorham gave a brief summary of the stages in the development of the bond issue which he said has moved along promptly. Attorney Gorham advised that the legislature is on vacation next week which may or may not delay the enabling legislation process. In anticipation of the possibility of a delay, an amendment to the enabling legislation was submitted today. The original language – “Shall an Act passed” was amended to say, “Shall an Act passed or to be passed”. This amendment will allow the vote on the bond issue to be taken as planned at the District Financial Meeting on April 21, 2008 in spite of a potential delay in the General Assembly’s enactment of the enabling legislation. Chair DeSack clarified that the legislation is solely to enable the School Committee to take the vote on April 21st and has nothing to do with any other aspect of the bond issue. Superintendent Geismar advised that Senator Breene is committed to getting the enabling legislation enacted as soon as possible and has said that he does not perceive any pitfalls. Dr. Geismar gave an overview relating to actions taken in

preparation for the DFM to ensure a smooth assembly and in educating taxpayers about the bond issue.

Health Care Discussion – Director of Administration Robert Ross advised that he continues to exchange information with United Health Care representatives. He said that he anticipates presenting a report to the School Committee at its Business Meeting in May.

REPORTS/COMMENTS – None

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – Wednesday, April 9, 2008-Building Committee Meeting; April 14 – 18, 2008-Spring Break; Monday, April 21, 2008-District Financial Meeting; Tuesday, April 22, 2008-School Committee Meeting-(Jr. High School Presentation); Tuesday, May 13, 2008-School Committee Meeting-(Lineham/Wawaloam Presentation @ Wawaloam); Tuesday, May 27, 2008-School Committee Meeting (Special Education Presentation in Jr. High Cafeteria)

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RIGL 42-46-4 AND RIGL 42-46-5 – Vice Chair Cicero moved to go into Executive Session at 6:59 p.m. in accordance with 42 -46-5 (a) (2) – Collective Bargaining Agreement/Negotiation Discussion and 42-46-5(a)(9) – Collective Bargaining Agreement - Grievances. Seconded Member Maher. Voted 5 – 0 in favor.

Meeting recessed to Executive Session at 6:59 p.m.

Clerk Coutcher moved to reconvene to Open Session. Seconded by Member Maher. Voted 5 - 0 in favor.

Meeting reconvened to Open Session at 8:30 p.m.

A 5 – 0 vote was taken during Executive Session to move the filed arbitrator’s decision regarding the Fine Arts Department grievance to Superior Court.

ADJOURNMENT – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Member Maher. Voted 5 - 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO

CLERK